

**MEETING MINUTES**

**March 30, 2010**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Bruce Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**SWEARING IN OF NEW COMMISSIONER**

New Parks and Recreation Commissioner Julie Avera was sworn in by City Clerk Geri Johnson.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Julie Avera, Bruce Lewis, Peter Meigs, Laura Miller and Michelle Ramirez

Absent: None

Also Present: Executive Secretary Clayton Lee

**VERIFICATION OF AGENDA POSTING**

Executive Secretary Lee informed the Commission that the agenda for the March 30, 2010 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was posted at both the Hollister Community Center and City Hall on March 24, 2010 per Government Code Section 54954.5.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Ramirez made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2010 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. Second by Commissioner Miller. Motion passed 5-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Resident Robyn Pollard welcomed new Commissioner Julie Avera.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Marne Drive Access** – Executive Secretary informed the Commission that he had been contacted by San Benito County Public Works Director Steve Wittry regarding the Marne Drive access to the west side of Veteran's Memorial Park. Mr. Wittry informed Mr. Lee that he was interested in opening the access again and that the County was contemplating a new activity area in that portion of the park. Having the access open again and useable, would be a benefit for use of the proposed barbecue area. Lee informed the Commission that City crews had repaired the chain link fence to close of the access recently, and that it has already been cut and vandalized. Lee provided the Commission with some photos of the access for the new Commissioners that were not familiar with the location. Lee stated that Mr. Wittry was requesting 60 – 90 days to get the necessary approvals from

the County before he could get back with us to confirm what joint effort could be completed. Chairperson Lewis made a motion to support the County's intention to redesign the access and make it safer for public use. Second by Commissioner Ramirez. Motion passed 5 – 0.

2. **Brigantino/Riverside Park Development Project** – Executive Secretary Lee informed the Commission that 800 tons of base rock from the old Leatherback site have been purchased and moved to Brigantino/Riverside Park. This rock will be used for the 1.5 mile access road around the perimeter of the facility. The continuing rains have prohibited staff from completing the access road. As weather permits, this task will be completed. Lee informed the Commission that a full time maintenance worker is now stationed at the facility and that is his primary focus. Staff is still working on determining the best method for fertilization of the facility. Chairperson Lewis stated that one of his contacts Dave Lewellen, a golf course superintendent with experience in liquid fertilizer injection systems, has volunteered to consult with Parks Division staff regarding this matter. Lee also informed the Commission that over the next 60 days the naming process will take place for the park. Staff is still hoping for a late Spring or early Summer dedication ceremony. Commissioners Miller and Avera volunteered to serve on a sub-committee to work with staff on the ceremony and grand opening.
3. **Development Of Off Leash Dog Park In Hollister** – Executive Secretary Lee informed the Commission that HDOG had forwarded a draft plan of the facility that contains items that have been discussed at recent meetings. The preliminary design includes a perimeter access road around the park, irrigation system, new fencing, location of small dog area, paving of parking area with asphalt or use of base rock, and possible use of reclaimed water for irrigation. Compliments were expressed for the plan that was provided to the Commission. The only thing that came up that was new was a statue near the entry. Chairperson Lewis appointed Commissioner Avera to the Off Leash Dog Park subcommittee to replace former Commissioner Todd Baker. Lee will keep the Commission posted on upcoming activities related to the dog park project.
4. **CPRS District 6 Awards and Installation Dinner** – Chairperson Bruce Lewis gave a summary of the 2010 CPRS District 6 Awards and Installation Dinner which was held on March 26, 2010 in Santa Cruz at the UCSC Seymour Long Marine Laboratory. Chairperson Lewis stated that the facility was a great location and that a good time was had by all. The District recognized former Commissioner Todd Baker for his donation of landscape maintenance services at Las Brisas Park and also Chairperson Lewis was recognized with one of two Commissioner Awards. Nearly 100 people attended the event making it one of the more successful in many years. Attending from Hollister were Chairperson Lewis, Todd Baker and his wife Nicole, Commissioner Avera and her husband Bill, and Executive Secretary Lee, his wife Mary Ann and daughter Trisha.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Resignation of Commissioner Todd Baker** – Chairperson Lewis informed the Commission that Todd Baker had submitted his resignation from the Commission for personal reasons relating to his business. Former Commissioner Baker had expressed his appreciation for being given the opportunity to serve on the Commission and had informed Executive Secretary Lee that he had learned a great amount about local government and the City's operations during his tenure on the Commission.
2. **Dog Days Event** – Chairperson Lewis informed the Commission that the Dog Days event sponsored by the Hollister Dog Owners Group (HDOG) was being held again this year at Dunne Park. Chairperson Lewis suggested that the Commission give the event a vote of confidence as it was a great event last year. He informed the Commission that HDOG had run into some last minute expenses related to security issues last year and that suggested that staff do what they can to assist HDOG with the event coordination process and reducing their costs. Proceeds from the event will assist with the construction of the Off Leash Dog Park to be located at Airport Park. The consensus of the Commission was for staff to assist HDOG with whatever they can to make the event a success.
3. **Kids In The Park Event** - The Commission received a report from Executive Secretary Lee regarding the Kids In The Park event that is scheduled for August 4, 2010 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Dunne Park. San Benito County Health and Human Services Department had previously coordinated the event that focuses on fitness and health for youth up to age 14 that had approximately 1,500 youth attend last year. Due to budget reductions, the County has had to back out of the coordination of the event. Lee informed the Commission that several groups including the Hollister Youth Alliance, Ladies Auxiliary of Hazel Hawkins Hospital, Community Food Bank and the Recreation Division are taking leadership roles this year in the coordination of the event. The Recreation Division will have a basketball hoop shooting activity. Commissioners that are interested in volunteering with the Recreation Division booth can contact Recreation Supervisor Tina Garza or Community Services Director Clay Lee for further information.
4. **Park of the Month** - Executive Secretary Lee provided the Commission with a revised Park of the Month schedule for 2010. Chairperson Lewis commented that the park was being used for a pick up soccer game when he visited and that the basketball court seemed to be well used and the turf was in good shape at the site that is jointly used by San Andreas High School for physical education class activities during the school day. Commissioner Miller commented that she had observed several City staff members taking what seemed to be a long time with maintenance work at Frank Klauer Park recently. Executive Secretary Lee informed the Commission that he had passed this information on to the proper staff in the Parks Division.

## **REPORTS**

1. **Recreation Program Review** – Executive Secretary Lee provided the Commission with an update of the various Recreation Division activities such as Adult Basketball, Adult Softball, Tee Ball/Youth Softball, Youth Tennis & Swim Camp, and the Summer Aquatics program.
2. **Parks Division Review** – Executive Secretary Lee provided the Commission with an update on Parks Division activities including preparation of ballfields for league play and practices, clean up of downtown parking lots and tree wells, soundwall maintenance, construction of a water conservation demonstration garden at Dunne Park (in the old horseshoe pit area) by the Water Resources Agency, tree removals that were lifting sidewalks creating trip hazards, and vandalism at the Dunne Park restrooms. Lee also informed the Commission that staff was awaiting confirmation on an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant from the California Energy Commission funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) for energy efficient retrofits of some pedestrian and street lighting, and replacement of the inefficient HVAC system at the Community Center which is approximately 30 years old.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Parks and Recreation Commission, Commissioner Ramirez made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m. Second by Commissioner Miller. Motion passed 5-0.

The next regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission will be held on April 27, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Clayton Lee, Executive Secretary  
Parks and Recreation Commission